

District Judge James L. Robart

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL,

Plaintiff,

v.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
an agency of the United States,

Defendant.

Case No. C18-1387 JLR

JOINT STATUS REPORT &  
~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

Plaintiff SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL (“SSL”) filed the above-captioned lawsuit under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) against Defendant U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (“DOI”), seeking disclosure of certain documents. On June 25, 2019, the Court entered a stipulated order requiring the parties to (1) continue working toward resolution of this matter without further judicial intervention and (2) submit a joint status report (“JSR”) within the next 30 days. Dkt. No. 25.

Accordingly, the parties submit this JSR to notify the Court that they are continuing to work together toward resolution of this matter. The parties are now actively engaged in settlement discussions. Apart from attorney’s fees and costs, the primary issue to be resolved is the timing and

JOINT STATUS REPORT AND PROPOSED  
ORDER

- 1 -

SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL  
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1 manner of release of a set of relatively recent records (dated from 2017) that are potentially  
2 responsive to SSL's FOIA request. According to rough agency estimates, these records span tens of  
3 thousands of pages. Given this circumstance, the parties are attempting to identify ways to  
4 streamline review and release of these voluminous records.

5 Counsel for the parties have conferred and intend to continue working together on these  
6 issues. The parties respectfully request that they be allowed to submit a JSR within the next ~~30~~<sup>60</sup> days  
7 but will, nevertheless, engage in their best efforts to resolve the outstanding issues before the JSR is  
8 due. If at any time in the next ~~30~~<sup>60</sup> days it becomes apparent that a resolution is not feasible, the  
9 parties will submit a joint briefing schedule to the Court.  
10

11 **SO STIPULATED.**

12 Dated this 25th day of July 2019.

13 s/ Brett W. Sommermeyer

14 BRETT W. SOMMERMEYER, WSBA # 30003

15 s/ Catherine E. Pruett

16 CATHERINE E. PRUETT, WSBA # 35140

17 SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL

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23 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
24  
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1 **SO STIPULATED.**

2 Dated this 25th day of July 2019.

3  
4 BRIAN T. MORAN  
United States Attorney

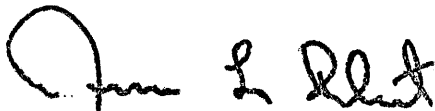
5 s/ Michelle R. Lambert  
6 MICHELLE R. LAMBERT, NY # 4666657  
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9 Tacoma, Washington 98402  
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10 Attorney for Defendant  
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**PROPOSED ORDER**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James L. Robart", written over a horizontal line.

JAMES L. ROBART  
United States District Judge